

#### UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

# <u>CERTIFIED MAIL</u> <u>RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED</u>

JUN 1 0 2014

Mr. Thomas C. Dolan Senior EHS Specialist Colonial Chemical Solutions, Inc. 916 West Lathrop Avenue Savannah, Georgia 31402-0576

Re: Colonial Chemical Solutions, Inc. Consent Agreement and Final Order Docket No. TSCA-04-2014-2509(b)

Dear Mr. Dolan:

Enclosed is a copy of the ratified Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) in the above-referenced matter. The original CAFO has been filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk and served on the parties as directed in Section 22.6 of the Consolidated Rules of Practice, 40 C.F.R. Part 22.

Please refer to Section V of the CAFO for penalty information and payment requirements. To ensure proper processing, the Respondent's name and Docket Number for this case, identified above and in the CAFO, should be noted on any cashier's or certified check submitted in payment of the penalty.

Also enclosed is a copy of a document entitled "Notice of Securities and Exchange Commission Registrants' Duty to Disclose Environmental Legal Proceedings." This document puts you on notice of your potential duty to disclose to the Securities and Exchange Commission any environmental enforcement actions taken by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency. Where used in the document "SEC" refers to the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Should you have any questions about this matter or your compliance status in the future, please contact Mr. Verne George of the EPA Region 4 staff at (404) 562-8988.

Sincerely

Anthony G. Toney

Chief

Pesticides and Toxic Substances Branch

# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 4 ATLANTA, GEORGIA

EPA REGION IV EPA REGION IV HEARING CLERK
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In the Matter of:	)	ERK	3: 58	4
Colonial Chemical Solutions, Inc.	)	Docket No. TSCA-04-2014-2509(b)		
Respondent.	) ) )			

### **CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER**

### I. Nature of the Action

- 1. This is a civil penalty proceeding pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Toxic Substances

  Control Act (TSCA), 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a), and pursuant to the Consolidated Rules of

  Practice Governing Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the

  Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits (Consolidated Rules), 40 C.F.R.

  Part 22. Complainant is the Director of the Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management

  Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4. Respondent is Colonial

  Chemical Solutions, Inc.
- 2. The authority to take action under Section 16(a) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a), is vested in the Administrator of the EPA. The Administrator of the EPA has delegated this authority under TSCA to the EPA Region 4 Regional Administrator by EPA Delegation 12-2-A, dated May 11, 1994. The Region 4 Regional Administrator has re-delegated this authority to the Director of the Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division by EPA Region 4 Delegation 12-2-A, dated January 14, 2009. Pursuant to that Delegation, the Director of the Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division has the authority to

commence an enforcement action as the Complainant in this matter and has the authority to sign Consent Agreements memorializing settlements between the EPA and Respondent.

3. Complainant and Respondent have conferred for the purpose of settlement pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.18 and desire to resolve this matter and settle the allegations described herein without a formal hearing. Therefore, without the taking of any evidence or testimony; the making of any argument; or the adjudication of any issue in this matter, and in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b), this Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) will simultaneously commence and conclude this matter.

### II. Preliminary Statements

- 4. Pursuant to Section 15 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2614, it is unlawful for any person to: (1) fail or refuse to comply with any rule promulgated or order issued under Sections 4, 5, or 6 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2603, § 2604, or § 2605, and any requirement prescribed by Section 5 or 6 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2604 or § 2605; (2) use for commercial purposes a chemical substance or mixture that the person knew or had reason to know was manufactured, imported, processed, or distributed in commerce in violation of Section 5 or 6 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2604 or § 2605; (3) fail to maintain records, submit reports or information, or permit access to or allow copying of records including but not limited to records and reports required by Section 8 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2607, and export notices required by Section 12(b) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2611(b); and (4) refuse to permit entry or inspection as authorized by Section 11 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2610.
- 5. Any person who violates a provision of Section 15 of TSCA shall be liable for a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 for each such violation, in accordance with

Section 16(a) of TSCA. The Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 requires the EPA to review and adjust penalties, as necessary, for inflation at least once every four years. As such, pursuant to the Adjustment of Civil Monetary Penalties for Inflation Rule, 40 C.F.R. Part 19, the revised maximum penalty for each violation occurring after January 30, 1997, through March 15, 2004, is \$27,500; for each violation occurring after March 15, 2004, through January 12, 2009, the maximum penalty for each violation is \$32,500; and for each violation occurring after January 12, 2009, the maximum penalty for each violation is \$37,500. Each day a violation continues may constitute a separate violation.

### III. Specific Allegations

- Respondent operates a chemical importing and manufacturing facility located at 916
   West Lathrop Avenue, Savannah, Georgia.
- 7. Respondent is a manufacturer and an importer as those terms are defined in 40 C.F.R. §§ 711.3 and 720.3(l).
- 8. On August 13, 2012, Respondent submitted its 2012 Chemical Data Report (CDR) to the EPA for thirty—one (31) chemical substances that were imported to its Savannah, Georgia site in 2011.
- 9. On June 20, 2013, an authorized agent of the EPA conducted an inspection at Respondent's place of business pursuant to Section 11(a) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2610(a).
- 10. Records provided to the EPA during the inspection included the 2011 chemical import records (production records) and the Respondent's 2012 CDR.
- 11. The 2012 CDR indicated that 618,729 pounds of sodium silicate (CAS # 6834-92-0) were imported in 2011.

- 12. Based on the EPA's review of the Respondent's 2011 production records for sodium silicate, the EPA has determined that Respondent's 2012 CDR included less than fifty percent of the actual amount of sodium silicate that Respondent imported in 2011.
- 13. On December 11, 2013, Respondent confirmed to the EPA that sodium silicate's 2011 import volume was actually 1,210,340 pounds which is not two significant figures of accuracy of 618,729.
- 14. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 711.15.(b)(3)(iii), for the principal reporting year (2011) and for each site, the total amount of the reportable chemical substance manufactured or imported must be reported in pounds separately, and the amount reported must be reported to two significant figures of accuracy.
- 15. Respondent did not report sodium silicate to two significant figures of accuracy in its 2012 CDR report submitted to the EPA on August 13, 2012.
- 16. By submitting a 2012 CDR for sodium silicate which did not report production volume to two significant figures of accuracy, Respondent violated 40 C.F.R. § 711.15(b)(3)(iii).
- 17. Pursuant 40 C.F.R. § 711.1(c), Section 15(3) of TSCA (15 U.S.C. § 2614), makes it unlawful for any person to fail or refuse to submit information required under 40 C.F.R. Part 711.
- 18. By failing to report its 2011 production volume for sodium silicate to two significant figures of accuracy as required by 40 C.F.R. § 711.15(b)(3)(iii), Respondent thereby violated Section 15(3) of TSCA.

#### IV. Consent Agreement

19. For the purposes of this CAFO, Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations set forth above and neither admits nor denies the factual allegations set forth above.

- 20. Respondent waives its right to a hearing on the allegations contained herein and its right to appeal the proposed Final Order accompanying the Consent Agreement.
- 21. Respondent consents to the assessment of the penalty proposed by the EPA and agrees to pay the civil penalty as set forth in this CAFO.
- 22. Respondent certifies that as of the date of its execution of this CAFO, it is in compliance with the TSCA regulations referenced in this CAFO.
- 23. Compliance with this CAFO shall resolve the allegations of the violations contained herein. This CAFO shall not otherwise affect any liability of Respondent to the United States. Other than as expressed herein, neither the EPA nor Complainant waives any right to bring an enforcement action against Respondent for violation of any federal or state statute, regulation or permit, to initiate an action for imminent and substantial endangerment, or to pursue criminal enforcement.
- 24. Complainant and Respondent agree to settle this matter by their execution of this CAFO.
  The parties agree that the settlement of this matter is in the public interest and that this
  CAFO is consistent with the applicable requirements of TSCA.
- 25. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.5(c)(4), the following individual is authorized to receive service for the EPA in this proceeding:

Verne George Chemical Products and Asbestos Section U.S. EPA Region 4 61 Forsyth Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960 (404) 562-8988.

#### V. Final Order

26. Respondent is assessed a civil penalty of FIFTEEN THOUSAND, SIX HUNDRED FORTY DOLLARS (\$15,640) which shall be paid within thirty (30) days after the

effective date of this CAFO. Respondent shall remit the penalty payment by either a cashier's or certified check made payable to the "Treasurer, United States of America."

The Respondent shall note on the face of the check the Respondent's name and the Docket Number associated with this CAFO. The penalty payment shall be sent by one of the methods below.

Address for payment submittal using the United States Postal Service (USPS) (excluding USPS overnight mail):

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Fines and Penalties Cincinnati Finance Center P.O. Box 979077 St. Louis, Missouri 63197-9000.

Address for payment submittal using USPS overnight mail or other delivery service (e.g., Federal Express, United Parcel Service, DHL, etc.):

U.S. Bank Government Lockbox 979077 U.S. EPA Fines & Penalties 1005 Convention Plaza Mail Station SL-MO-C2-GL St. Louis, Missouri 63101

Contact Phone Number: (314) 425-1818.

27. At the time of payment, Respondent shall send a separate copy of the check and a written statement that the payment is being made in accordance with this CAFO, to the following persons at the following addresses:

Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. EPA Region 4 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960; Verne George Chemical Products and Asbestos Section U.S. EPA Region 4 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960; and

Saundi Wilson Office of Environmental Accountability U.S. EPA Region 4 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960.

- 28. For the purposes of state and federal income taxation, Respondent shall not be entitled, and agrees not to attempt, to claim a deduction for any civil penalty payment made pursuant to this CAFO. Any attempt by Respondent to deduct any such payments shall constitute a violation of this CAFO.
- 29. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717 and 40 C.F.R. § 13.11, the EPA is entitled to assess interest and penalties on debts owed to the United States and a charge to cover the cost of processing and handling a delinquent claim. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(a), interest on any civil penalty assessed in a CAFO begins to accrue on the date that a copy of the CAFO is mailed or hand-delivered to the Respondent. However, the EPA will not seek to recover interest on any amount of such civil penalty that is paid within thirty (30) calendar days after the date on which such interest begins to accrue. Interest will be assessed at the rate of the United States Treasury tax and loan rate in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(a). A charge will also be assessed to cover the administrative costs, both direct and indirect, of overdue debts. In addition, a late payment penalty charge shall be applied on any principal amount not paid within ninety (90) days of the due date.
- 30. Complainant and Respondent shall bear their own costs and attorney fees in this matter.
- 31. This CAFO shall be binding upon the Respondent and its successors and assigns.

32. Each undersigned representative of the parties to this CAFO certifies that he or she is fully authorized by the party represented to enter into this CAFO and hereby legally binds that party to this CAFO.

## VI. Effective Date

33. The effective date of this CAFO shall be the date on which the CAFO is filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

Respondent: Colonial Chemical Solutions Inc.  Docket No.: TSCA-04-2014-2509(b)  By:  Name: George L. Lout III	Date: 4/28/14	
Complainant: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  By:  Beverly H. Banister, Director  Air, Pesticides and Toxics  Management Division	Date: 5/30/14	
APPROVED AND SO ORDERED this/o day of By: Susan B. Schub Regional Judicial Officer	June	,2014.

**AGREED AND CONSENTED TO:** 

I hereby certify that on the date set out below, I filed the original and one copy of the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order and served a true and correct copy of the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order, In the Matter of Colonial Chemical Solutions, Inc, Docket Number: TSCA-04-2014-2509(b), to the addressees listed below.

Thomas C. Dolan Senior EHS Specialist 916 West Lathrop Avenue Savannah, Georgia 31402-0576 (via Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested)

6-10-14

Verne George

(via EPA's internal mail)

Chemical Products and Asbestos Section U.S. EPA Region 4 61 Forsyth Street, S.W.

Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Robert Caplan

(via EPA's internal mail)

Office of Environmental Accountability

U.S. EPA Region 4 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303

By:

Patricia A. Bullock

Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. EPA Region 4 61 Forsyth St., S.W.

Atlanta, GA 30303

(404) 562-9511